HITCHIN
NETBALL CLUB

Player Welfare & Support Policy

Issue: 2
Issue Date: November 2026
Review Date: November 2027
Responsible: Hitchin Netball Club Committee

The Committee is collectively responsible for ensuring this document is implemented, reviewed and updated as required.

Approval

This document was approved by the Hitchin Netball Club Committee at its meeting on 7 November 2026 and the approval is recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

Purpose

Hitchin Netball Club is committed to the wellbeing of all players, both on and off the court. We recognise that injuries, illness, or personal challenges can affect a player's connection with the team, and we aim to ensure every member feels valued and supported.

Scope

This policy applies to all players, coaches, and committee members. It covers support provided to players experiencing injuries, illness, personal challenges, or extended absences from training and matches.

Policy Statement

Hitchin Netball Club is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment that promotes the wellbeing of all players.

Procedures / Implementation

Support Offered

The Club provides a supportive environment to help players stay connected to the team:

- Regular check-ins from coaches or volunteers
- Appropriate messages or gestures of support to help players remain connected with their team
- Signposting to appropriate external wellbeing resources

All support is delivered respectfully, inclusively, and tailored to the age and needs of each player.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Coaches & Volunteers: Be alert to wellbeing concerns, provide appropriate support, and help players maintain a connection with the team.
- Safeguarding Team: Provide confidential support, guidance, and signposting to appropriate external resources.
- Committee: Oversee policy implementation and ensure support is fair, consistent, and compassionate.

Confidentiality

Where wellbeing information needs to be recorded, it will be managed confidentially and securely, accessible only to authorised individuals and in accordance with data protection and safeguarding procedures. Confidentiality cannot be promised where information needs to be shared to protect a player or address a safeguarding concern.

Emotional and Mental Wellbeing

Players can access support through the Safeguarding Team, which can provide guidance and signposting to appropriate external organisations for emotional and mental wellbeing support. Players and parents/carers can contact the Safeguarding Team at safeguarding@hitchinnetballclub.co.uk.

Monitoring and Review

This document will be reviewed annually by the HNC Committee, or sooner if required due to changes in legislation, Club operations, or England Netball guidance.

The Committee will monitor implementation and compliance. All updates will be documented and communicated to members and volunteers.

References and Supporting Documents

Hitchin Netball Club documents

- Safeguarding Policy
- Player Welfare & Support – Internal Volunteer Guidance
- Individual Needs Conversation Record Form
- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy
- Neurodiversity Quick Guide for Coaches
- Player Attendance & Refund Policy
- Head Injury & Concussion Policy & Procedures
- Data Protection Policy
- Privacy Notice

England Netball guidance and documents

- England Netball Safeguarding Children and Young People in Netball Policy
- England Netball Diversity & Belonging Policy